




Lincoln—
The Hoosier Youth

INDIANA--

The Training Ground of Lincoln



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INDIANA'S CONTRIBUTION TO LINCOLN



Pioneer Atmosphere

Abraham Lincoln migrated to Indiana in 1816, the same year the state was received into the Union. Here he spent one-quarter of his whole life and literally grew up with the commonwealth. When he left the state in 1830 he was six feet and four inches tall and weighed two hundred and ten pounds. It was the pioneer activities of his Indiana years which contributed most to his physical growth.

Home Environments

The social environment of Lincoln's Indiana home was a valuable contributing factor to his character building. Three groups of orphan children grew up in the Lincoln cabin under the guidance of Thomas and Sarah Johnston Lincoln. Thomas was a faithful member of the pioneer church and created for his son a wholesome religious atmosphere in which to develop.

School Facilities

Three Hoosier schoolmasters contributed to Lincoln's primary education, and his formal learning was not inferior to that of other boys and girls who grew up in the wilderness. He mastered the most difficult subject in the pioneer school, having completed the "rule of three" in mathematics.

Books Read

As a youth Lincoln read the Bible; Aesop's Fables; Biographies of Washington, Marion, Franklin, and Clay; Robinson Crusoe; The Statutes of Indiana; and a History of the United States. He also had access to a dictionary, books of the best poetry and prose, song books, and the school texts of that day. He is said to have read all the books in the neighborhood as well.

Newspapers Available

At least three newspapers came into his hands each week during the latter part of his Indiana residence, and this source of information was largely responsible for his advanced education in preparation for his life task.

AMERICAN TESTIMONIALS



Woodrow Wilson

"Lincoln, nevertheless, rather than Jackson, was the supreme American of our history. . . . Lincoln was always a-making; he would have died unfinished if the terrible storms of the war had not stung him to learn in those four years what no other twenty could have taught him. And, as he stands there in his complete manhood, at the most perilous helm in Christendom, what a marvelous composite figure he is! The whole country is summed up in him."

Calvin Coolidge

"No other man in our history has so touched the hearts of the people. In him they saw a reflection of themselves. They knew he sympathized with their sorrows and understood their aspirations. He surpassed all others in those attributes which men feel are common to them all. In him they find the pure and unmixed basic elements."

Nicholas Murray Butler

"What manner of man was this who had become the idol of a free people and the very incarnation of their loftiest spirit and their noblest ideals? Years have passed and his stately sombre figure stands out every day more clearly against the background of history."

Joseph Fort Newton

"The typical man of America, the one in whom the mighty and tender spirit of this republic found incarnation as in no other, was Abraham Lincoln."

ENGLISH APPRECIATIONS



The Six Greatest Figures

Bruce Barton interviewed H. G. Wells, the famous English historian, and asked him to name the six greatest figures in history. These are the men Wells named: Jesus of Nazareth, Buddha, Asoka, Aristotle, Roger Bacon, and Abraham Lincoln.

One of Five Great Lawyers

Lord Shaw, a leading English legal authority, told the American Women's Club in London that he considered Abraham Lincoln one of the five greatest lawyers of the past. The others were Papinianus, Grotius, Duncan-Forbes, and Lord Mansfield.

A Giant Figure

"I doubt whether any statesman who ever lived sank so deeply into the hearts of the people of many lands as Abraham Lincoln did. He is one of those giant figures, of whom there are very few in history, who lose their nationality in death. They are no longer Greek or Hebrew or English or American—they belong to mankind."—Lloyd George.

Greatest Man in Modern History

"Abraham Lincoln stands out as the greatest man in modern history, in that he did the work that he saw as his to a greater degree of perfection than any man in late centuries has been able to do. Lincoln brought great dignity to a great public office more than any man of modern times, and at the same time kept in personal contact with those about him. I consider him to be not only the greatest American but greater than any man France, England, or any other country has produced in the last few centuries."—John Drinkwater.

Lincoln—A Universal Figure

THE MANSHIP STATUE



Although Abraham Lincoln may be considered an American type as well as a universal figure, the fact that he is destined to live through the ages sets him apart from most humans. It is appropriate indeed that a likeness of this Hoosier youth should be done in enduring metal.

For such a task Paul Manship, whose fame as a sculptor is already secured, was commissioned to create a youthful Lincoln for the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company. In 1928 the preliminary studies for the statue were made and on September 16, 1932, the completed work was dedicated.

While no photographs of Lincoln were available for a period as early as that represented by the statue, dependable descriptions of his appearance as a youth and casts of his head and hands after he reached maturity made it possible for the sculptor to portray Lincoln very much as he must have looked when he left Indiana in 1830 at twenty-one years of age.

The statue which stands in the plaza of the Company building rises on its pedestal twenty-two feet above the sidewalk level. The figure of Lincoln itself is twelve feet and six inches high. The granite base, pedestal, and bronze statue altogether weigh eighty tons.

The medallions alone are worthy of special attention, and they are valuable contributions to sculptural art. They represent four outstanding traits of Lincoln's character: Charity, Fortitude, Justice, and Patriotism.

The setting for this work of art is as nearly ideal as could be selected. The architects who designed the building which serves as a background for the study had in mind the placing of a statue in the plaza of the building.

THE LINCOLN MUSEUM



On August 3, 1905, Robert Lincoln, son of Abraham Lincoln, sent a picture of his father to Arthur F. Hall to be used as the insignia of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company which Mr. Hall was then organizing. To this original gift there has been added by officers of the Company hundreds of other Lincoln portraits until the collection now contains over 2,000 different pictures of the President.

A still greater achievement has been realized in the compilation of printed matter about Lincoln which is now considered to be the largest collection of literature ever assembled in one place about one man, Biblical characters excepted.

Four thousand books and pamphlets, exclusively Lincoln, have been acquired and catalogued. They require one hundred and sixty-eight feet of shelf room to display them in steel sectional book cases. Several hundred biographies and histories which contain valuable Lincoln data are also available for the research worker. Three hundred Lincoln books in foreign languages are on the shelves and about one hundred publications similar to those Lincoln is known to have read have been secured.

The magazine files reaching back to 1860 number more than three thousand separately bound articles about Lincoln. Complete files of such magazines as Harper's Weekly (for the period of Lincoln's administration) are available. Series of historical magazines where Lincoln data is usually found may be used for reference.

Newspaper clippings by the thousands are mounted on uniform size paper and filed according to subject matter. Many rare early printings of papers referring to incidents in Lincoln's life, including twenty different editions and reprints of the New York Herald for April 16, 1865, are to be found in the library.

Broadsides of the campaign days, hundreds of poems, souvenir programs, and many other collections of literature increase the total pieces of printed matter brought together to more than 25,000. There are also 25,000 manuscripts and autograph letters, bearing on some phase of the Lincoln story, and medals, stamps, curios, etc., which bring the complete total of items in this remarkable collection well above 60,000.

Lincoln—An Inspiration For All

Justice



Patriotism



Fortitude



Charity

Bronze Medallions on Statue Pedestal

The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company
"Its Name Indicates Its Character"

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